



Our Vision

- Working to keep children safe
- Helping individuals and families become self-sufficient
- Providing safe refuges during disasters



Aug 19, 2016

DCFS Announces Parish Locations for First Phase of DSNAP

Assistance available for 8 parishes next week; Schedule for additional parishes announced

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) announced the first of three phases of the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for residents to finalize applications for DSNAP benefits.

DSNAP, formerly called Disaster Food Stamps, provides food assistance to eligible households who do not receive regular SNAP benefits and who need help buying groceries due to lost income or damages following a disaster.

The following locations will be open Monday, August 22, through Saturday, August 27, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.:

- **East Feliciana Parish ZIP Codes 70722, 70730, 70748, 70761, 70777, and 70791:**
 - Early Learning Center, 9414 Hwy 67 (Plank Road), Clinton
- **Iberia Parish ZIP Codes 70518, 70528, 70552, 70560, 70563, and 70592:**
 - South LA Community College, 908 Ember Dr., New Iberia
- **Livingston Parish (all ZIP codes):**
 - Amvets Post 68, 26890 Hwy 42, Springfield
 - Judson Baptist Church, 32470 Walker North, Walker
- **Pointe Coupee Parish ZIP Codes 70749, 70760, and 70783:**
 - Pointe Coupee Multi-Use Facility, 1400 Major Parkway, New Roads
- **St. Helena Parish (all ZIP codes):**
 - Greater Turner Chapel AME, 875 Turner Chapel Rd, Greensburg
- **St. Landry Parish ZIP Codes 70512, 70525, 70535, 70541, 70550, 70570, 70577, 70584, 70586, 70589, 70750, and 71358:**
 - Southeast Community Center, 101 City Avenue, Eunice
 - Yambilee Building, 1939 W Landry St., Opelousas
- **Tangipahoa Parish ZIP Codes 70401, 70403, 70422, 70443, 70444, 70446, 70454, 70455, 70456, 70465, and 70466:**
 - Eagle Heights Community Church, 47318 Rufus Bankston Rd., Tickfaw
- **Vermilion Parish ZIP Codes 70510, 70533, 70548, 70555, 70575, 70578, and 70592:**
 - First Baptist Church, 210 N. St. Charles, Abbeville

Each of the eight parishes will serve applicants next week on a staggered alphabetical schedule. To minimize wait times, applicants and anyone who pre-registered for benefits should go to a DSNAP location only on one of the days indicated by the first letter of their last name. Applicants who are unable to visit a site on their designated day should go on one of the final days specified.

For the above locations, applicants should go on the following designated days, based on their last name.

- Monday, August 22: A-D
- Tuesday, August 23: E-K
- Wednesday, August 24: L-R
- Thursday, August 25: S-Z
- Friday, August 26: A-K applicants unable to make prior scheduled day
- Saturday, August 27: L-Z applicants unable to make prior scheduled day

Those applying for DSNAP MUST go to a specified DSNAP site for the parish where they resided during the disaster to apply and receive benefits, if eligible.

DSNAP Phase Two will be from Monday, August 29, to Saturday, September 3, for Acadia, Ascension, East Baton Rouge, and Lafayette parishes. DSNAP Phase Three will be from Monday, September 5, to Saturday, September 10, for Avoyelles, Evangeline, Iberville, Jefferson Davis, St. Martin, Washington and West Feliciana parishes.

Sites for these parishes will be announced once the locations are finalized.

Applicants may name an Authorized Representative to go to a DSNAP site on their behalf. Authorized Representatives must bring with them to the DSNAP site a picture ID and the picture ID of the applicant/head of household along with a signed statement from the applicant/head of household or an adult household member authorizing them as a representative.

Accommodations will be made for the elderly and those with disabilities to reduce on-site wait times, but we strongly encourage these residents to name an Authorized Representative to visit a DSNAP site and complete an application on their behalf.

Regular SNAP households DO NOT need to apply for DSNAP. Impacted households that receive regular SNAP benefits in the DSNAP parishes will have additional SNAP benefits added to their Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards if they are not already receiving the maximum allotment for their household size.

To help expedite the application process DCFS is encouraging residents in all affected areas to pre-register for DSNAP benefits. The pre-registration is not an application for DSNAP. Residents will need to go to the parish DSNAP site in which they reside to complete an application and determine their DSNAP eligibility.

The best way to pre-register is online at www.dcfs.la.gov/preregister. However, residents can also pre-register by phone at 1-888-LAHELP-U (1-888-524-3578). Beginning Monday, August 22, the call center will extend its hours on Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Hours for Saturday and Sunday will remain at 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Callers will select the appropriate language and then select options 3 and 3. All pre-registrants will have to provide the following information:

- Name, Social Security Number and Date of Birth for each household member
- Current address and parish of household
- Monthly income for each household member
- All liquid assets for each household member (cash on hand, checking, savings)

The information will be kept securely on file and will be confidential.

The pre-registration process does not guarantee benefits, but is designed to save time, minimize long waits and prevent applicants from coming to the site, only to find out that they do not have the right information needed to apply.

As with all programs, DCFS works to ensure this program and others are available for eligible applicants by aggressively protecting against fraud in benefits programs year round. Strong safeguards are in place to ensure that only eligible citizens receive DSNAP benefits, to identify those who are dishonest about their eligibility and to pursue recoupment and/or prosecution.